

5 September 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 4 September 1957

PRESENT: General Cabell, Mr. Cutler, Mr. Hollister, Mr. Larson,
Mr. Murphy, Mr. Quarles, Mr. Scribner and Mr. Melbourne.

1. Yemen.

The status of various attempts to alleviate the situation in Yemen was discussed. General Cabell pointed out that despite the disappointing progress made so far, the Yemen Development Corporation is the only American organization which has a franchise for exploration and development in Yemen. He said that particularly since the Yemeni government is pushing hard for concrete plans, if not results, there is no time to try to encourage another corporation to replace the YDC. Mr. Hollister did not express any disagreement with this point of view, but on the other hand did not indicate any particular ICA interest in the YDC.

2. Publicity on Ballistic Missiles.

Mr. Quarles discussed the current policy governing publicity in regard to US developments in the ballistic missile field. He suggested that it might be advisable to reconsider this policy with a view toward a possible recommendation to the President for a relaxation in the current restrictions. It was stated that the deterrent effect of our own nuclear and missile strength might be increased by allowing somewhat more publicity within the limits of allowable security, and that such publicity might reassure other nations which could be impressed by Soviet advances.

~~General Cabell stated that from an intelligence point of view we should make no news releases which would give the Soviets any factual data as to our own state of development, i.e. we should not provide them~~

cf ~~with reliable "bench marks". He also referred to the danger of challenging Soviet claims which might later prove to be well founded.~~

It was generally agreed that it would be a difficult task to relax press restrictions to any considerable extent without running into the dangers outlined above. However it was decided to refer the matter to the established Working Group for the preparation of appropriate recommendations.

C. P. Cabell

C. P. CABELL
Lieutenant General, USAF
Acting Director

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NOTE FOR RECORD:

Reference the lined-out part of para 2, General Cabell sent note to Mr Barrott, 7 Sept, as follows: "The part lined out was actually not made at the meeting. It is what I believe to be our proper approach."

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